

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Nancey Harrington at 10:30 a.m. on January 15, 2002 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Russell Mills, Legislative Research Department
 Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research Department
 Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor
 Nikki Kraus, Committee Secretary

Others attending: Please see attached

Chairperson Harrington began the meeting by welcoming back the members of the committee and thanking them for their attendance. She then asked the committee for bill introductions.

Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor, briefed the committee on two bills which had been introduced in the joint committee on tribal relations from the interim. Ms. Kiernan stated that the first bill, **SB 383—Interlocal agreements with Native American Indian tribes**, amends the interlocal cooperation act. She stated that it would provide that local units of government, state officers such as the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state treasurer and insurance commissioner, could enter into interlocal agreements with Native American tribes. She stated that the bill does not provide for interlocal government to be able to enter into a gaming compact with the tribes.

Ms. Kiernan went on to brief the committee on **SB 384—Agreements between the governor and Native American Indian tribes**. She stated that the bill was a clarification of the authority of the governor to negotiate and execute agreements with federally recognized Native American Indian tribes. She stated that it did not authorize the governor to enter into a gaming compact.

Chairperson Harrington thanked Ms. Kiernan and asked the committee and audience for bill introductions; there were none.

Chairperson Harrington stated that the committee had a letter available to them from Natalie Haag, Chief of Staff and General Counsel to the Governor of the State of Kansas concerning the findings of the Joint Committee on Tribal Relations if they wished to see it.

Russell Mills, Legislative Research Department, presented the major conclusions from the “Report of the Joint Committee on State-Tribal Relations to the 2002 Kansas Legislature” to the committee (**Attachment 1**). Following his presentation, Mr. Mills added that the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation had developed a documentary film about their history and the improvements to the reservation following the introduction of casino gaming. He stated that the film was created by the tribe for distribution to schools and other organizations within the state. Chairperson Harrington suggested that the documentary be shown sometime in committee, and the committee members agreed. Mr. Mills concluded his presentation and asked if there were any questions; there were none.

Senator Vratil stated that since the bills briefed by Ms. Kiernan would be referred to the Judiciary committee, and three of that committee’s members were also on Federal and State Affairs, members should feel free to discuss any of their concerns with Judiciary members concerning those bills. He also stated that the basic point of those bills was to allow a grievance to be made with the tribe to encourage cooperation from the tribes, state agencies, and local government. He stated that in both law enforcement and other areas, this would increase the efficiency and effectiveness of cooperation.

Senator Gooch asked the committee if there had been a bill passed last year to allow interworking between tribal and local government. Senator Vratil stated that the bills were introduced last year but that he was not sure if they had been through the entire process. Theresa Kiernan stated that the bills were currently in the house.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS at on January 15, 2002 in Room 245-N of the Capitol.

Chairperson Harrington went over the committee schedule with the members. Senators Barnett and Brungardt thanked her for her scheduling considerations.

Theresa Kiernan asked Chairperson Harrington if the committee would require a complete bill draft before a request might be made. Chairperson Harrington asked Senators Brungardt and Gooch and the committee, and they agreed to accept conceptual bills.

Chairperson Harrington stated that the committee would be scheduling future briefings from Tracy Diel from the Racing and Gaming Commission, meetings with some of the other commissioners, Alcoholic Beverage Control, and some other briefings for relevant topics. Chairperson Harrington also said that if any of the committee members had suggestions, they would be considered. In response to a question from Senator Gooch, Chairperson Harrington stated that the committee agendas would be scheduled in advance to accommodate conferees.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting will be held on January 22, 2002 at 10:30 a.m.